

East Tennessee State University
MUSC 1221 Choir (BucsWorth)

1 Credit Hour

T/Th 11:15 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.

Mathes Hall 107 (Recital Hall)

Dr. Alan Stevens

Fall 2021

BUCS WORTH



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

About BucsWorth:

BucsWorth Tenor Bass Choir was formed in 1989 at East Tennessee State University by Dr. Thomas Jenrette, now Professor Emeritus, as a primarily a cappella chamber ensemble called “Seven BucsWorth.” This referred to the number of guys in the ensemble and a play-on-words reference to the ETSU athletics mascot, the Buccaneers. The number of Bucs changed over the years, but the ensemble soon became one of the most popular choral groups in the region. In 2013, under the direction of Dr. Alan Stevens, the ensemble was expanded to a full choir. BucsWorth has been recognized as one of the premier university tenor bass choirs in the nation. BucsWorth received third place in the 2017 American Prize Competition for University Choirs, and has performed by invitation at the Intercollegiate Men’s Choruses National Seminar, the Tennessee Music Educators Association State Conference, and the Young Men’s Power Sing in Atlanta. BucsWorth performs a diverse repertoire of both traditional and contemporary choral music, including performances with the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra and frequent collaborations with other university tenor bass ensembles. BucsWorth has premiered works by Dan Forrest, Jacob Narverud, Andrea Ramsey, Alan Stevens, and Daniel Gawthrop. They have worked with guest artists including Alice Parker, Ola Gjeilo, Brad Holmes, New York Voices, and Chanticleer. BucsWorth is composed of singers from across all campus disciplines, and it is open to any student.

I am BucsWorth. You are BucsWorth. We are BucsWorth.

Objectives:

To discover and foster musicianship and healthy choral singing techniques.

To experience choral music from a variety of genres and periods.

To perform concerts with the highest level of accuracy and artistry.

Grading Policy:

A	95%-100%	B-	82%-83%	D+	74%-75%
A-	90%-94%	C+	80%-81%	D	72%-73%
B+	87%-89%	C	78%-79%	F	0%-71%
B	84%-86%	C-	76%-77%		

- Participation 55%:** As a member BucsWorth, you are expected to be fully engaged in all rehearsals. This is exemplified through *active* participation in all aspects of the course meetings. This includes following the requests of the Dr. Stevens, accurate marking of the scores, involvement in discussion when appropriate, avoiding disruption of the rehearsal whenever possible, and maintaining a positive attitude. If, at any time, you feel you need sit out of a rehearsal, please discuss this with Dr. Stevens prior to the beginning of class.
- Preparedness 10%:** In addition to class rehearsals, you are expected to practice in order to increase proficiency and memorization (when necessary). Dr. Stevens will check preparedness in various ways that may include asking you to sing solo in front of the entire ensemble or on an individual appointment basis. Preparedness also includes arriving at rehearsals and performances with your materials: music, pencils, folder, correct performance attire, and anything else needed for the assigned event.
- Assignments 15%:** Dr. Stevens will assign occasional part check recordings and written assignments. These will be explained when they are assigned.
- Concert & Event Attendance 20%:** Attendance and participation in concerts and additional rehearsals scheduled outside the course meetings are a mandatory requirement. The current schedule is listed below, however, it is possible that additional events will be added throughout the semester. Two weeks notice will always be given for added events. Exceptions for attendance may be made at the discretion of Dr. Stevens, but are not guaranteed in any situation. You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner at all performances and events.

Music:

Music given to you for the class is the property of East Tennessee State University. You are responsible for the safe keeping and condition maintenance of this property. Music will be collected at the end of each semester. Failure to return the music will result in an incomplete grade until the music is returned or it is paid for at replacement value.

Concert Attire and Appearance:

BucsWorth strives to present a professional and polished appearance to our audiences. In order to ensure this is successfully accomplished, you are expected to wear matching performance attire. A tux jacket, vest, tie, and shirt will be provided for you. Tux pants, dress black shoes, and black socks are your responsibility. If you have a serious problem with the cost of the required attire, please discuss this with Dr. Stevens privately. If you have any issue with the performance attire requirement, speak with Dr. Stevens about your concern.

Cell phones:

Cell Phones must be turned off during class time! You will be asked to leave if you repeatedly interrupt the class with cell phone noise or focus.

Food and drink:

Food is not allowed in the classroom. Water in a sealable container is acceptable.

Name/Pronoun:

I will address you by the name and pronouns that are yours. Please advise me early in the semester if your name and/or pronouns are different than indicated in the ETSU system, and feel free to let me know if I make an error.

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

If you believe you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability or temporary medical condition, visit the office of Disability Services. Before accommodations may be put into place in this class, you must provide appropriate documentation.

Diversity Statement:

This classroom is a place where you will be treated with respect. I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming and inclusive environment for every other member of the class.

Safe Zone:

I am a member of a Safe Zone Ally community network, and I am available to listen and support you in a safe and confidential manner. As a Safe Zone Ally, I can help you connect with resources on campus to address problems you may face that interfere with your academic and social success on campus as it relates to issues surrounding sexual orientation and gender identity. My goal is to help you be successful and to maintain a safe and equitable campus.

Currently Scheduled Events Outside of Class:

Thursday, October 14	Choral Collage Rehearsal	6:00-9:30	MC Grand Hall
Friday, October 15	Choral Collage Concert	5:30 Call Time 7:30 Concert	MC Grand Hall
Tuesday, October 26	Voces 8 Concert	7:30 Concert	MC Grand Hall
Saturday, November 13	Perfect Harmony Concert	7:30 Concert	MC Grand Hall
Tuesday, November 30	Holiday Concert Rehearsal	6:00-9:30	MC Grand Hall
Wednesday, December 1	Holiday Concert Rehearsal	6:00-9:30	MC Grand Hall
Thursday, December 2	Holiday Concert Rehearsal	6:00-9:30	MC Grand Hall
Saturday, December 4	Holiday Concerts	2:00 Call 4:00 Concert 7:30 Concert	MC Grand Hall

Dr. Stevens reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time during the semester. This will be done in a timely manner, and you will be made aware of the modification(s).